

Midway Elementary School

2018-2019 Parent and Family Engagement Plan for Shared Student Achievement

Plan Revised April 24, 2018
3244 Midway Church Road
Blackshear, GA 31516
<http://mes.pierce.k12.ga.us/>
Dr. Walker Todd, Principal
(912) 807-0084



What is a parent and family engagement plan?

This document is a plan that describes how **Midway Elementary School** will provide opportunities to improve parent and family engagement to support student learning. **MES** values the contributions and involvement of parents and family members in order to establish an equal partnership for the common goal of improving student achievement. This plan describes the different ways **MES** will support family engagement and how parents can help plan and participate in activities and events to promote student learning at school and at home.

How is it developed? **MES** welcomes parent and family member input and comments at any time regarding our plan to involve families. All parent and family member feedback will be considered for the revision of plans each year. Our plan is posted on our school website for families to view and give input throughout the year. Parents and family members can email suggestions to klydon@perce.k12.ga.us or send a copy of the online stakeholder feedback form to the school office. We also distribute an annual survey to all families to ask for their suggestions on the plan and the use of funds for parent and family engagement. During our MES Café meetings, families are able to give feedback about our parent and family engagement activities, and to review and revise this parent and family engagement plan, as well as the school improvement plan, our school-parent compact, the district parent and family engagement plan, building staff capacity opportunities, and the parent and family engagement budget for the upcoming school year.

Who is it for? All **MES** students and families are encouraged and invited to fully participate in the opportunities described in this plan. **MES** will provide full opportunity for the participation of parents & family members with limited English proficiency, economically disadvantaged, limited literacy, any racial or ethnic minority background, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children, when feasible.

Where is it available? At the beginning of the year, the plan is included in the student handbook that is given to all students. Also, the plan is distributed in the local community. Parents and family members can request a copy of the plan at the front office or view a copy on the **MES** website.

What is Title I?

MES is identified as a Title I school as part of Section 1116 of the Every Child Succeeds Act (ESSA). Title I is designed to support State and local school reform efforts tied to challenging State academic standards to improve teaching and learning for students. Title I programs must be based on effective means of improving student achievement and include strategies to support parent and family engagement. All Title I schools must jointly develop with all families a written parent and family engagement plan.

Midway Elementary School

“Making Excellence Standard”



2018-2019 District Goals

- ✓ High Academic Achievement
- ✓ Quality Teachers, Administrators, & Staff
- ✓ Supportive Learning Environment
- ✓ Effective, Efficient Operations
- ✓ Strong Parental & Community Support
- ✓ College & Career Readiness

School-Parent Compacts



As part of this plan, **MES** and our families will develop a school-parent compact. This compact is an agreement that parents, family members, teachers and students will develop explaining how families and teachers will work together to make sure all students reach grade-level standards. The compacts will be reviewed and updated annually based on feedback from parents, family members, students and teachers during Parent Café meetings. Each teacher has a copy of the compact to review with parents during parent/teacher conferences. Also, a copy of the compact is sent home with all students, posted on the school website, and may be obtained in the front office.

Let's Get Together!

MES will host the following events to build the capacity for strong parent and family engagement to support a partnership among the school, parents, family members and the community to improve student academic achievement. Look for dates and times not listed below on Facebook, MES website, and grade level newsletters.



Pre-K Open House- July 31, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.

- ✓ We encourage all upcoming Pre-K parents to come to MES to meet teachers, tour the school, and learn everything you need to know to make your child's first day at MES successful.

MES ESOL/Migrant Open House - July 31, 2018 @ 6:45 p.m.

- ✓ Parents will have time to meet with our MES ESOL teacher. This is also an opportunity to meet with a translator and complete all necessary enrollment paperwork in their native language. Parents will find this a good time to ask questions about the upcoming school year.

Open House- August 2, 2018

- ✓ Tour the school, visit the classrooms, and meet your child's teachers along with our helpful, friendly school staff.

Annual Title I Extravaganza, August 23, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ Spend an evening understanding what your child is learning and ask the questions you didn't realize you had during Open House.
- ✓ Learn how to monitor your child's progress: Infinite Campus Parent Portal, email alerts, and Remind for assignments
- ✓ Find out about the Georgia Milestones and other assessment information
- ✓ We invite you to learn and receive information about our Title I program, our Parent and Family Engagement and schoolwide plans, the school-parent compacts and parents' requirements. Invitations will be sent to all families and posted on the school website, in the school newsletter, and with the local media.

Mentor & Volunteer Training-August 30, 2018 at 7:45 a.m.

- ✓ Receive training and pertinent information to prepare you to be the best volunteer and/or mentor you can be!
- ✓ Volunteers and Mentors can be trained throughout the school year by contacting the school office at (912)807-0084.

MES Cafés

- ✓ Come talk with teachers/staff about how we can improve our family engagement activities/events at **MES**, what the school can provide you with to help support your child's learning at home and the best ways to communicate with you. Also, the **MES** Cafés will provide opportunities for you to assist in revising our Title I program plans, school-parent compact, building school staff capacity trainings and the budget. Join us on the following dates:

January 24, 2019 @ 7:45 a.m.

May 9, 2019 @ 2:45 p.m.

Christmas Open House- December 11, 2018 at 6:00

- ✓ Rediscover the magic of Christmas.

District Migrant Family Nights held at Blackshear Elementary School on October 23, 2018

@ 6:00 p.m., January 17, 2019 @ 6:30 p.m., March 14, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.

- ✓ Come hear about the Migrant program
- ✓ Learn about various strategies being used to help your child succeed at school and how you can help your child at home
- ✓ Give us your ideas/suggestions

Annual Title I Family Engagement Survey – January/February

- ✓ As partners in your child's education, your opinions & suggestions are important to our success! Please take a few moments to complete our survey. Flyers and website updates will give you important information regarding this input opportunity.

District Parent Advisory Council Meeting – February 14, 2019 at the PC Board of Education

- ✓ All parents are welcome to hear the latest updates from the Pierce County School District as well as review and provide input into our District Parent & Family Engagement Plan and the District Improvement Plan. Please RSVP Angie Meadows at (912)807-0048.

Parent Learning Opportunities - Look for dates and times on Facebook, MES website, and grade level newsletters.

- ✓ **Lunch and Learn Parent Workshops:** Your voice has been heard. Due to an overwhelming response to our Title I Parent and Family Engagement Surveys, we are offering parent workshops for families. If you work and have a short time for lunch, no problem. Families who RSVP will receive a crash course in specific content areas with a lunch to go.
- ✓ **Breakfast Workshops:** In an effort to provide alternate meeting times, some of our parent workshops will be held in the morning. Parents will enjoy coffee and pastries while learning strategies to help their child at home.
- ✓ **Tech Cafés:** Parents participate alongside teachers in this staff development opportunity designed to incorporate technology into the classroom effectively.

“Table Talk” Workshops

- ✓ Join us for a delicious lunch while gaining knowledge to support your child's educational success. Workshops are open to all Pierce County families! Invitations are sent to all families and posted on the schools' websites. Lunch is sponsored by our community partners. All workshops begin at **12:00 noon.**

Date: 09/05/18 Location: Blackshear Elementary Topic: TBA

Date: 10/03/18 Location: Patterson Elementary Topic: Literacy & Reading Strategies

Date: 11/07/18 Location: Blackshear Elementary Topic: Math Strategies to Help your Child

Date: 02/06/19 Location: Pierce County Middle Topic: Technology Tools for Academic Success

Shining Stars Assemblies-October, January, March, and May during PE

- ✓ Award ceremonies to recognize students with outstanding achievements.

Kindergarten Transition Night- March 28, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

- ✓ We encourage all upcoming kindergarten parents to come to MES to meet teachers, tour the school, and learn everything you need to know to make your child's first day at MES successful.

Moving to Middle School- Thursday, May 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

- ✓ Orientation for next year's 6th grade parents and family members to discuss the transition from elementary to middle school. More information will be advertised on the PCMS website, Facebook page, and sent home with your child.
- ✓ Digital Footprint Discussion/Social Media Discussion

Parent and Family Engagement

MES believes that parent and family engagement is the participation of families in regular two-way and meaningful communication. This involves student academic learning and other school activities ensuring that...

1. Parents and family members play an integral role in assisting their child's learning;
2. Parents and family members are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school;
3. Parents and family members are partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision-making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child.

Family Resource Center



*Check out our **"Virtual"** Pierce County Family Resource Room on Pinterest for engaging resources to support your child's learning at home! Our **"Virtual"** resource room has valuable activities for Pre-K through 12th grades including instructional videos from Pierce County teachers! Visit it today at...

www.pinterest.com/pcresourceroom/

Come visit our Family Resource area located in the MES Media Center. Items are available for check out from 7:20 a.m. until 3:10 p.m. Families may check out materials during scheduled teacher conference times after school. Computers are available for parents to check their student's grades on the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

Parent and Family Engagement Standards

MES and our families have adopted the National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships as the school's model in engaging parents, family members, students, and the community. These standards are as follows:

- Welcoming all Families
- Communicating Effectively
- Supporting Student Success
- Speaking Up for Every Child
- Sharing Power
- Collaborating with the Community



***MES** is committed to helping our families attend the parent and family engagement activities listed in this plan. Please call or email us if you need assistance with childcare and/or translation services, when feasible, in order to participate in our events.*

912.807.0084~ ~Kim Lydon, Mes Parent & Family Engagement Coordinator

klydon@pierce.k12.ga.us

Translation Services - (912) 281-3249

MES Supports Our Parents!

MES will take the following measures to promote and support parents and family members as an important foundation of the school in order to strengthen the school and reach our school goals. We will...

- ✓ Ensure that all information related to school and family programs, meetings, social media and other activities is published in both English and Spanish (to the extent feasible), and posted on the school website and included in grade level newsletters for all families.
- ✓ Conduct staff development on parent and family engagement practices and effective strategies for staff to improve communication with families and ideas to increase parent and family engagement.
- ✓ Partner with Head Start and other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs to share school information about parent and family engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members, and their student for kindergarten and improve school transition.
- ✓ Partner with Pierce County Middle School to share school information about parent engagement activities that will help prepare parents, family members and their child for middle school and improve school transition.
- ✓ Share information in English and Spanish (to the extent feasible) on the school website and in the school newsletter for parents and family members to understand the school's academic standards and assessments as well as the ways families can monitor their child's progress and work with educators.
- ✓ Communicate with all families and the community on a regular basis regarding school wide events and activities, such as phone messages, social media, flyers and Remind.
- ✓ Work with our families to develop relevant trainings and helpful presentations to educate our staff on the importance of parent and family engagement and how to support student learning.
- ✓ Provide necessary materials for parents and family members at conferences, meetings, and activities to help families work with their child to improve their child's achievement.
- ✓ Collaborate with community leaders, philanthropic organizations and business groups to increase participation and awareness of the school parent and family engagement plan and activities.
- ✓ Use our MES Cafés to improve awareness of the activities and events listed in the school parent and family engagement plan.
- ✓ Collect feedback from parents and family members at school events, place input cards in the suggestion box holder in the main lobby and post stakeholder feedback form on the school website in order to respond to parents' and family members' requests for additional support for parent and family engagement activities.

MES welcomes parent & family member input and comments at any time regarding the following: **MES & District** Parent and Family Engagement Plans, the Comprehensive LEA Implementation Plan (CLIP), the **MES** School Improvement Plan, the School-Parent Compacts, the District Needs Assessment, and the use of the required 1% of parent and family engagement funds.

MES Parent Café Meetings

MES invites all families to join the MES Parent Café meetings to share ideas and ways to involve other parents to build partnerships with school, families, and the community. The meetings will occur two times during the school year, but parents can also submit their ideas or suggestions during all activities and meetings as well as through our parent surveys, website and suggestion box. If you would like to learn more about the Parent Café, please contact Kim Lydon, School Counselor, at 912.807.0084 or complete the "Sign Me Up" form below.



Share Your Thoughts

We want to hear from you! If you have any suggestions or if there is any part of this plan that you feel is not satisfactory with the students' and the school's goals for academic achievement, please provide us with your comments in the space provided or leave your comments in the **Suggestion Box** located in the main lobby.

Comments: _____

Optional:
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Sign Me Up!



Please complete below and return to your child's teacher.

- Yes, I am interested in attending the MES Parent Café meetings.
- I would like to be involved in the following ways: (circle below)
 - Special Events
 - Mentoring a child
 - Volunteering to help with school pictures or Santa pictures
 - Fall festival
 - Field days
 - Grade level volunteer opportunities
 - Committees
 - School volunteer
 - Other: _____

Name: _____

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____